

Case 3185***Criconema* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914 (Nematoda): proposed designation of *Eubostrichus guernei* Certes, 1899 as the type species**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the current usage of the name for the free-living soil nematode genus *Criconema* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914. Most workers have accepted as a valid type species designation the tentative statement by Stiles & Hassall (1920) that *Eubostrichus guernei* Certes, 1889 'should probably be type' of *Criconema*, but this does not satisfy Article 67.5.3 of the Code. The valid designation is by Micoletzky (1925) who designated *Criconema morgense* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914. Taylor (1936) designated this same species as type of his new genus *Criconemoides*, thereby making it a junior objective synonym of *Criconema*. It is proposed that current usage of *Criconema* and *Criconemoides* be maintained by designation of *Eubostrichus guernei* as type species of *Criconema*.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Nematoda; Tylenchida; CRICONEMATIDAE; *Criconema*; *Criconemoides*; *Criconema guernei*; *Criconemoides morgense*.

1. Hofmänner & Menzel (1914, p. 88) established the nominal genus *Criconema* (Nematoda, Tylenchida), with two species, *Eubostrichus guernei* Certes, 1889 (p. L.48) and a new species, *C. morgense* (p. 90). They did not designate either species as the type.

2. Stiles & Hassall (1920, p. 323) wrote in their Index-Catalogue under the heading *Criconema*: '(guernei should probably be type)'. This is not a valid type species designation under Article 67.5.3 of the Code, but has generally been taken as valid (by, for example, Mehta & Raski, 1971; Andrásy, 1979; Siddiqi, 1986; Raski & Luc, 1987).

3. Micoletzky (1925, p. 261) designated *Criconema morgense* Hofmänner & Menzel as the type species of *Criconema*, and this is the valid designation. In 1936 Taylor split *Criconema* in two and established *Criconemoides* (p. 406) with *Criconema morgense* as type species. To accept Micoletzky's earlier designation of *Criconema morgense* as type species of *Criconema* would make the generic name *Criconemoides* a junior objective synonym of *Criconema*. Transfer of the name *Criconema* to the genus currently known as *Criconemoides* would necessitate adopting a new name for *Criconema* as currently understood, in addition to totally confusing the literature of the last 60 years. The earliest synonym for *Criconema* is *Nothocriconema* De Grisse & Loof, 1965 (p. 588) for which the type species by original designation is *Hoplolaimus annulifer* De Man, 1921.

4. Continuation of the present usage of the names *Criconema* and *Criconemoides* is necessary to maintain stability in nomenclature, since both names are widely used, e.g. for *Criconema*: Gunhold, 1953; Choi & Jeong, 1995; Loof, Wouts & Yeates, 1997, and for *Criconemoides*: Raski, 1952; Raski & Golden, 1966; Loof & De Grisse, 1989. Numerous further references for both genera can be found in *Zoological Record*.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:-

- (1) to set aside all previous fixations of type species for *Criconema* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914 and to designate *Eubostrichus guernei* Certes, 1889 as the type species;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *Criconema* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914 (gender: neuter), type species by designation in (1) above *Eubostrichus guernei* Certes, 1889;
 - (b) *Criconemoides* Taylor, 1936 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation *Criconema morgense* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *guernei* Certes, 1889, as published in the binomen *Eubostrichus guernei* (specific name of the type species of *Criconema* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914);
 - (b) *morgense* Hofmänner & Menzel, 1914, as published in the binomen *Criconema morgense* (specific name of the type species of *Criconemoides* Taylor, 1936).

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